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**ABSTRACT**

**Title: GEOSTAT 2011 – A population grid for Europe representing the Census 2011.**

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In the framework of the GEOSTAT action of the European Statistical System (ESS), a number of National Statistical Institutes have produced



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1km<sup>2</sup> population grids following GEOSTAT guidelines. The population grids show the distribution of the total population at the place of residence on the reference date of the national 2011 Census. The population figures were either aggregated from address or building points or recast from national population grids with cell sizes smaller than 1km<sup>2</sup>. A number of countries have not yet provided data to GEOSTAT 2011 for various reasons. Data for those countries were added from a disaggregated population grid produced by AIT. The population distribution in this grid dataset was estimated using LAU2 population figures for the Census 2011 and soil sealing information as a proxy for housing and population density. The assembly of the European grid dataset from the various data sources is a straightforward database operation thanks to a unified data model, standard grid cell codes, and a common European projection system.

The GEOSTAT 2011 data will be made available on the Eurostat website for free download but certain license conditions and terms of use following national legislation will have to be respected.

The present GEOSTAT 2011 dataset will be enhanced in future iterations with more countries releasing national grid datasets during 2014 and also complemented with grid datasets on elementary population breakdowns into age groups and sex.